

The Waxhaw Gazette

A CSgN Publication serving the people of Waxhaw, North Carolina

Twenty-Ninth Edition

Friday, June 13th, 2008

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Prelude From The Editor:



This week I am reporting from a war zone of sorts located somewhere between Wyandotte and Joplin Oklahoma. I am covering the annual "Oklahoma D-Day" paint ball event. One of the premiere gatherings of the very serious paint ballers in the country and beyond.

I have spent the entire week which will come to fruition with the main event on Saturday, meeting and talking with these young men and women. If you didn't know better you might think you were in the rear of a real war effort. The sounds of helicopters coming and going, the venerable Duce and a Half with its distinctive whine hauling men and equipment in and out of the action. And then there is the random sound of live ammo fire in the background somewhere. Big boys playing very realistic big boy games.

There are a lot of stories here, more than I can cover in just one week, so be assured that, as time permits, there is much more to come about these all American men and women and their stories as told around the campfire.



Photo Courtesy: David Shipside

D-Day Invasion

For me, those words conger up thoughts of my father and his friends..... the stories they told amongst each other with me, just a kid, listening in from a respectable distance.....then as I grew older, other memories of John Wayne and "The Longest Day".... Lee Marvin, Cary Grant, all of the silver screen heroes I looked up to. Well, that was their war and the stories I remember about it. Now it is becoming to mean something very different to me.....

Here I am the father and my son is exposing me to an entirely new take on "D-Day"! I am currently sitting under a tent amongst twenty or so guys who just came back from a skirmish. In full gear, they are soaked to the skin. The rain is finally long gone and temps are rising into the upper upper eighties. The wind seems to never stop blowing here and we are constantly chasing down our tents and gear. Instead of real bullets, blood and such of course, here it is paint balls and smoke grenades, but there the difference ends. The days are spent with immense amounts of time spent developing strategies and battle plans of all sorts. Invasions and defenses with contingency plans are in place and options are the course of the day. Its hard to believe it isn't a real military action.

All of the guys have nick names like Kelly (and his hero's), Zipper, New York, of course there is a Doc and Six Pack, to name a few. Most of the guys are breaking down their equipment and cleaning their guns and such while others are taking advantage of the time for some food and rest.

A rather amazing event really, seven days all told. With all of the "Major European Countries" that were involved in World War Two and the invasion represented. Our group, we are the Germans, the bad boys.... of course on the Allied Side there is the English, French, and the Americans are well represented with main units including 82nd and 101st Airborne.

Although it remains to be seen but the latest official count I heard was over TEN THOUSAND attendees! I understand that by Saturday, the day of the main offensive event, there will be thousands more choosing up sides. I am surprised at the number of actual military people participating here. I have met people from the Army, Marines and even a guy who I believe is Navy. Some are still in while a lot of them are former military. One of the most amazing groups is the Valkyrie's, a unit made up of women only with a story all of their own. One girl, so taken with the outfit, had their unit insignia tattooed on her back!



Day Two, Assembly for announcements. Photo Courtesy: David Shipside

I encourage all of you to pass our link along to your Waxhaw friends and relatives so they too can enjoy our paper. Remember we will be publishing every Friday with updates as they come out. As I continue the process of building out our e-mail list, I will use it to send out announcements at time of publishing, with additional updates as warranted, so if your not already on our list and wish to become a subscriber, please drop me a line with your request. And remember, there is never a charge to be a subscriber!



On a Side Note:

Fourth of July is coming soon so watch for info on town festivities. I understand we are in for quite the show again this year!

Do stop by and give a hearty welcome to Nicole Jordan and her new business: BACK IN THE DAY - ANTIQUES AND PRIMITIVES



in Waxhaw beside Broome's Barber Shop 704-634-6561

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And now, directly from the Internet.....

bits and pieces that your Editor will not testify to for correctness, accuracy nor even believability but they are certainly humorous? So Enjoy!



The Importance of Walking

Walking can add minutes to your life.

This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$7000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60.. Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where he is.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing..

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.

Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

I do have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

The advantage of exercising every day is so when you die, they'll say, 'Well, she looks good doesn't she?'

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

I know I got a lot of exercise the last few years..... just getting over the hill.

We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

AND

every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a Happy Hour and by the time I leave, I look just fine.

You could run this over to your friends but why not just e-mail it to them!

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Dear Amber,

I am a single woman in my 30's. I have lots of wonderful friends, a great job, fabulous wardrobe and a fantastic apartment but don't have a special man in my life! My problem is that I recently met a man (Jonathon) to whom I am attracted and the feeling is mutual. I want to advance this relationship to the next stage and start dating him but have concerns about doing so because it may cost me a very valuable friendship. While out with some friends recently, I mentioned that I had met someone that I was interested in dating. When my friends pressed me for details I told them about Jonathon and that's when the trouble started. My BFF, Blair, seemed to get agitated about this. Now, before you go thinking that Blair may have feelings for me, let me explain that while we are very close, we're just friends - Blair is gay. It turns out that he dated Jonathon a few years ago while Jonathon was in an experimental stage. I got the feeling that Blair may still have feelings for Jonathon. I'm really attracted to this man but don't want to date him if it's going to affect my friendship with Blair. I tried talking to Blair about it but he just shrugged it off and told me to "go for it" but I get the feeling that he may still have feelings for Jonathon. I want to be a good friend but I'm really interested in this new guy. Should I just go for it and let the chips fall where they may?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,

My mother used to say that "men come and men go but a good friend is here to stay". The world is full of interesting people with whom we could potentially be happy but yet we seem to have trouble maintaining personal relationships. You mentioned that you are in your 30's - then you know that most relationships are over relatively quickly. It's difficult to find the right one, and once that person is found, it's difficult to keep the relationship going. Friendships are special in that they tend to stand the test of time. Friends share in our successes, help us when we're down, and listen to tales of woe when our relationships go bad. I would hate to see you ruin a good relationship with Blair to see if there is anything more than a flirtation with Jonathon. My advice is to find someone else to date. However, if you really feel compelled to pursue a relationship with this man - do yourself a favor and invite Jonathon to join you and your friends - making sure that Blair is there. If there is anything left between them you'll know soon enough and you'll need to bow out of this situation. Only if there is absolutely nothing between them should you consider getting to know Jonathon better.

Amber

Amber

Send your relationship questions to: ambermaxwell@thewaxhawgazette.com



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